

**Tanning Industry in Bihar**

**7259. Shri Shiva Chandra Jha:** Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tanning industry in Bihar is on the decline;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what have been the achievements of the tanning industry in Bihar during the three Plans and what is going to be Government's policy concerning it during the Fourth Plan period?

**The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Bihar is one of the largest producers of raw hides and skins in the country. In the large scale sector Batas have established a unit at Mokamehghat in Bihar State. In addition, the Bihar State Small Industries Corporation Ltd. has already established three organised tanning units producing chrome leather and sole leather and they are feeding their footwear units. Another two tanneries of the Corporation are under construction. Approval for five additional tanneries has also been obtained by the Corporation.

**Introduction of Fast Moving Trains**

**7260. Shri Virendra Kumar J. Shah:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether trials for switching over to fast moving trains of over 120 kmph. have been made;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the detailed programme for the introduction of fast moving trains in different zones of Indian Railways during the current year; and

(d) the details of the rolling stock required for the purpose and how much will be procured or manufactured indigenously?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such detailed programme so far. The feasibility of raising the present maximum permissible speed of 100 kmph. on trunk routes is still under the consideration of the Government, the first stage being to raise it to 105 kmph. on Delhi-Agra, Delhi-Bombay Central and Delhi-Howrah routes.

(d) Does not arise.

**Prices of photographic goods**

**7261. Shri S. Kundu:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of the photographic goods such as professional cut films and papers, 120 and 620, have increased since 1964;

(b) if so, the rate of increase; and

(c) whether the State Trading Corporation is planning to revise the prices of these photographic goods and if so, when and how?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The prices were revised upwards in February and August, 1965 to cover the increased incidence of custom duty etc. initially by 10% in February and later by 35% in August, 1965. Consequent on devaluation the prices have again been revised by the STC for the goods which have been imported into India following devaluation or in the case of goods which were imported into India prior to 6-6-66 on deferred payment basis but had not been paid for till that date.